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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/529,762	04/18/00	RITTERSHAUER	C TCG-420,1PUS

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HM12/0921

EXAMINER

HUYNH, P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1644	6

DATE MAILED: 09/21/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/529,762	RITTERSHAUS ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	" Neon" Phuong Huynh	1644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE One MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 July 2001.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 38-52 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 38-52 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____ .
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1. In view of the canceled claims 1-37, filed 8/06/01, the previous restriction, mailed 6/20/01, has been vacated. The new restriction is set forth below.
2. Claims 38-52 are pending.
3. **Please Note:** In an effort to enhance communication with our customers and reduce processing time, Group 1640 is running a Fax Response Pilot for Written Restriction Requirements. A dedicated Fax machine is in place to receive your responses. The Fax number is 703-308-4315. A Fax cover sheet is attached to this Office Action for your convenience. We encourage your participation in this Pilot program. If you have any questions or suggestions please contact Paula Hutzell, Ph.D., Supervisory Patent Examiner at Paula.Hutzell@uspto.gov or 703-308-4310. Thank you in advance for allowing us to enhance our customer service. Please limit the use of this dedicated Fax number to responses to Written Restrictions.

Election/Restrictions

4. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372:
This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in response to this Action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted:

- I. Claim 38, drawn to a humanized rabbit cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP) comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5.
- II. Claim 39, drawn to a humanized rabbit cholesteryl ester transfer protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6.
- III. Claims 40-48, 51 and 52, drawn to a method of modulating the level of endogenous active cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP) in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a whole, non-endogenous CETP from xenogeneic CETP.

- IV. Claims 40-48, 51 and 52, drawn to a method of modulating the level of endogenous active cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP) in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal from an allelic variant of the mammal's endogenous CETP.
- V. Claims 40-48, 51 and 52, drawn to a method of modulating the level of endogenous active cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP) in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a whole, non-endogenous CETP from a mammalianized, non-endogenous CETP in which the amino acid sequence of a non-endogenous CETP has been altered by deletion or substitution of one or more amino acids.
- VI. Claims 40-45 and 49- 52, drawn to a method of modulating the level of endogenous active cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP) in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a plasmid-based vaccine.

The inventions listed as Groups I-VI above do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

Ha *et al* (Biochimica et Biophysica Acta 833: 203-210, 1985; PTO 1449) teach a method for modulating the level of endogenous cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP) in a rat, which is a mammal, comprising administering to the rat a whole exogenous lipid transfer protein from human, which is non-endogenous CETP, that reduces cholesteryl ester transfer activity to about 20% at 24 hour as recited in claim 40 (See page 204 Method; page 208, Discussion in particular).

Since Applicant's Inventions do not contribute a special technical feature when viewed over the prior art, Groups I-VI are not so linked by the same or a corresponding special technical feature as to form a single general inventive concept and therefore lack unity of invention.

- 5. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the searches are not co-extensive, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
- 6. Applicant is advised that the response to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed.

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7. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently filed petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h).
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuong Huynh "NEON" whose telephone number is (703) 308-4844. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:30 p.m. A message may be left on the examiner's voice mail service. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Chan can be reached on (703) 308-3973. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center 1600 receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.
9. Papers related to this application may be submitted to Technology Center 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Technology Center 1600 via the PTO Fax Center located in Crystal Mall 1. The faxing of such papers must conform to the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The CM1 Fax Center telephone number is (703) 305-3014.

Phuong N. Huynh, Ph.D.

Patent Examiner

Technology Center 1600

September 24, 2001

Christina Chan
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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 1800 1680